



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Parks and Recreation Minutes 10/11/2005

Park and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, October 11, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED - Meeting Minutes

Present: Mr. Joseph Carabello, Ms. Nancy Campbell, Ms. Leslie Mayer

Mr. Don Vitters

Staff: Mr. Jonathan Jalbert, Recreation Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Laura Munsey

1. Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Carabello welcomed the Commissioners and Guests to the October 11th meeting. Mr. Carabello thanked Laura Munsey for her work over the past two years on behalf of the Commission and wished her well in her new position. He also informed the Commissioners that Mr. Caccavaro called and reported he could not attend this evening's meeting.

MOTION: (Made by Ms. Mayer, 2nd by Ms. Campbell)

THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVES THE JULY 26, 2005 MEETING MINUTES.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (4-0) IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION

MOTION: (Made by Ms. Mayer, 2nd by Ms. Campbell)

THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVES THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 MEETING MINUTES.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (4-0) IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION

2. Roland Chaput – Friends of Robbins Farm

Mr. Chaput presented the Commission updates to the Calendar of Events, which were held, and are scheduled to be held, at Robbins Farm. Ms. Corinna Vanderspeck informed the Commission of the various bulbs selected for planting. It was recommended that the location of the plantings be mapped out, so they are not inadvertently damaged by DPW Parks Dept. Mr. Chaput also shared information regarding invasive plants that were found at Robbins Farm..

Mr. Oakes Plimpton provided a historical overview of Robbins Farm, and presented a draft of the sign they would like to install. An updated copy will be submitted at a later date for approval. It is planned to be baked enamel and laid in stone (rock outcropping of 10' x 10'). A discussion regarding park curfews was also raised, and several neighbors shared concerns regarding the town by-law. Mr. Michael Smith informed the Commission that some expansion joints on the large slide (railings in particular) are ruff and may be in need of some maintenance.

MOTION (made by Don Vitters, 2nd by Nancy Campbell)

THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVES THE REQUEST FROM THE FRIENDS OF ROBBINS FARM TO SCHEDULE A BULB PLANTING AND CLEAN UP DAY ON OCTOBER 22, 2005.

VOTE: Unanimous (4-0) in favor of the motion.

MOTION (made by: Leslie Mayer, 2nd by Don Vitters)

THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVES THE PERMIT REQUEST TO ALLOW A GROUP OF RESIDENTS TO TELESCOPICALLY VIEW THE STARS AND PLANETS FROM 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM AT ROBBINS FARM ON OCTOBER 29, 2005.

VOTE: Unanimous (4-0) in favor of the motion.

3. Capital Project Updates

The Locke Playground and Waldo Park Site meeting has been postponed until Friday October 14, 2005. Both projects are nearing completion.

Locke Playground

Graffiti has been located at Locke and will be removed. On October 19th the Work Place at Arlington High School will paint the fence at Locke, as a community service project. Mr. Jalbert reported that the bench in honor of Deborah Hayes is at the site but not yet installed. The opening is tentatively scheduled for the 1st week in November. A plaque will be ordered with the following inscription as approved by the Park Commission:

Deborah Hayes
For her many years of dedicated service
to the Town of Arlington Recreation Division

Bench Donated by: The Touchdown Club of Arlington

Spy Pond

Mr. Vitters and Mr. Jalbert reported all is going well at Spy Pond. A table was damaged on Town Day Weekend, and will need to be replaced and/or repaired. Fencing has arrived and is being installed. Mr. Jalbert recommended adding a Bike Rack at the Pond Lane entrance area. An Application for Payment was presented to the Commissioners.

MOTION (made by: Leslie Mayer, 2nd by Don Vitters)

The Park Commission Approves Application for Payment for the Spy Pond Shores Project with a retainer held in the amount of \$21,000.

VOTE: Unanimous (4-0) in favor of the motion.

North Union

Mr. Andrew Leonard is working with Mr. Jalbert to put out to bid the desired work at North Union Playground regarding equipment and surfacing. The Handicapped Swing will need to be removed due to inappropriate fall zone regulations.

Waldo Park

Mr. Alex Hoffinger of the Friends of Waldo provided an update of the Community Build Project, and reported residents are anxious to use the equipment.

MOTION: (made by: Don Vitters, 2nd by Leslie Mayer)

THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVES THE INSTALLATION OF A COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD AS MODIFIED.

VOTE: Unanimous (4-0) in favor of the motion.

Capital Plan: The Commissioners discussed the projected Capital Plan, which was submitted to Ms. Galkowski, Deputy Town Manager. Mr. Vitters provided additional numbers for review based on the Pine and Swallow Report, as well as the Turner Construction Study. Mr. Vitters and Mr. Jalbert will continue to work on Projections for future capital requests. Ms. Campbell informed the Commission that after visiting both courts she believes that Grove Street Tennis Courts should be redone before the Spy Pond Tennis Courts due to conditions at both Courts.

Ms. Mayer read allowed a letter mailed to Town Meeting Members from the Disability Commission regarding concerns about the use of CDBG and how they are allocated.

4. Committee Updates

Field Policy Committee – Mr. Carabello – Nothing new to report

Field Maintenance and User Fee Committee – Ms. Campbell – Met in October.

Sports Center Improvement Committee – October Meeting was Cancelled. Next meeting 11/17/05

Open Space Committee – Ms. Mayer reported the Open Space Committee is concerned about invasive plants. The Official Park and Recreation Plan is due in 2007. Bulbs from Symmes site will be relocated to Reservoir.

5. Recreation and Rink Update

Recreation Fall Programs are underway and off to a good start. The Rink Season opened strong. Concession stand improvements are continuing including the tiling of the floor, a new 3 bay sink, and the installation of a fryolator.

6. Correspondence Received

Mystic River Water Shed Evaluation of Hills Hill site requested by Summer Street Neighborhood Group.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm